

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 108279

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108279

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOL TELEGRAM STATE 108279 SENT ACTION ABU DHABI MAY 14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108279

STADIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 108279 ACTION JIDDA DATED 9 MAY 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108279

STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS- ENRG

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR - YAMANI TALKS ON P/C DIALOGUE

REF: JIDDA 3202

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. DURING THEIR APRIL 18 MEETING, THE SECRETARY AND YAMANI
DISCUSSED THE PREPCON AND POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS. YAMANI
AGAIN STRESSED THAT THE AGENDA FOR ANY FULL CONFERENCE MUST
GIVE EQUAL BILLING TO RAW MATERIALS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOP-

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 108279

MENT ISSUES AS WELL AS ENERGY. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT WE

WERE NOT REFUSING TO DEAL WITH THESE OTHER ISSUES, AND WERE WILLING TO DISCUSS THEM BOTH IN THE CONFERENCE ITSELF TO THE EXTENT THEY ARE RELATED TO ENERGY AND MORE FULLY IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA. WE CONTINUE TO WANT A CONFERENCE WHICH FOCUSES ON ENERGY AND ENERGY-RELATED ISSUES.

2. AS POSSIBLE WAYS AROUND THIS PROBLEM, THE SECRETARY AND YAMANI DISCUSSED BRIEFLY THE POSSIBILITY OF A SEPARATE PARALLEL CONFERENCE ON RAW MATERIALS OR AN AGREEMENT TO TREAT RAW MATERIALS AT A SECOND SESSION OF THE SAME CONFERENCE. THEY AGREED THAT YAMANI SHOULD CONTINUE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU HIS IDEAS ON HOW TO GET THE MULTILATERAL DIALOGUE BACK UNDERWAY.

3. WE HAVE HAD NO REPORTS FROM ANY OTHER OF THE GROUP OF SEVEN MEMBERS THAT WORK IS UNDERWAY TO PUSH FORWARD TO ANOTHER PREPARATORY MEETING. OUR SOUNDINGS TO DATE HAVE INDICATED THAT THE SEVEN ARE BASICALLY RELAXED ABOUT THE

FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT AT THE PARIS MEETING AND ARE IN NO HURRY TO RECONVENE.

4. IN ANY CASE, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES ON THE CRITICAL ISSUE OF THE SCOPE OF THE EVENTUAL FULL CONFERENCE ARE PROBABLY NOT RECONCILABLE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WE ARE CURRENTLY REEXAMINING OUR POLICIES ON COMMODITIES, AS ARE OTHER INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES. SUBSEQUENTLY, WE WILL SEEK WITHIN THE IEA AND OECD TO COORDINATE OUR POSITIONS AND DEVELOP INITIATIVES FOR DEALING WITH RAW MATERIALS QUESTIONS SEPARATE FROM ENERGY. THIS PROCESS WILL TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS, DURING WHICH TIME WE WANT TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH SAUDI ARABIA. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DECIDE WHETHER WE PREFER TO TREAT RAW MATERIALS IN EXISTING INTERNATIONAL FORA OR IN A NEW FORUM, SUCH AS A FOLLOW-ON TO AN ENERGY CONFERENCE, UNTIL THIS PROCESS IS COMPLETED.

5. YOU SHOULD STRESS TO YAMANI THAT WE REMAIN INTERESTED IN A MULTILATERAL DIALOGUE ON ENERGY. WHAT WE MOST NEED NOW ARE NEW IDEAS FOR RESOLVING THE BASIC DIFFERENCES
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PAGE 03 STATE 108279

AS TO THE SCOPE AND STRUCTURE OF THE DIALOGUE RATHER THAN NEW ATTEMPTS AT AGENDA FORMULATIONS TO PAPER OVER THESE DIFFERENCES. YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT, DESPITE OUR DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE PREPCON'S OUTCOME, WE VIEW THE MEETING AS THE FIRST STEP IN THIS MULTILATERAL DIALOGUE. YOU SHOULD ASK YAMANI FOR HIS IDEAS ON THE NEXT STEP AND TELL HIM THAT WE WILL GIVE HIS VIEWS CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN HIS

ASSESSMENT OF HOW OTHER KEY OPEC AND LDC NATIONS WOULD REACT TO HIS IDEAS. YOU SHOULD DRAW ON PARAS 4 AND 5 AS WELL TO EXPLAIN CURRENT US THINKING. YOU MAY ALSO INDICATE THAT UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON HOPES TO SCHEDULE A TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND WOULD WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THESE QUESTIONS WITH YAMANI AT THAT TIME.

6. FYI - TAHER WAS MISTAKEN WHEN HE SAID THAT AT THE PRP EPCON THE TWO SIDES WERE CLOSE TO AGREEMENT UNTIL THE US GOT NEW INSTRUCTIONS. THERE WERE NO NEW INSTRUCTIONS TO THE US DELEGATION, MERELY APPROVAL OF ITS CONCLUSION THAT THE TIME HAD COME TO BRING THE MEETING TO A CLOSE. AS THE REPORTING CABLES STATED, THE DIFFERENCES WERE FUNDAMENTAL AND NEVER CAME CLOSE TO BEING RESOLVED. THE EC, US, AND JAPANESE DELEGATIONS ALL REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSION THAT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO REACH A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE OUTCOME AT THE PARIS MEETING. THE "TECHNICAL CHAIRMAN'S" ATTEMPT TO MEDIATE THE DIFFERENCES OF THE TWO SIDES MAY HAVE LED TO CONFUSION THAT COULD HAVE BEEN

AVOIDED IF TWO SIDES HAD BEEN NEGOTIATING DIRECTLY.;
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PAGE 04 STATE 108279

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